

REPORT  
CD NO.

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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PROGRESS ON CONSTRUCTION OF KAKHOVKA HYDROELECTRIC CENTER

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

N. Neporozhnyi, chief construction engineer of the Kakhovskaya GES, has indicated that the structures at this hydroelectric center will be arranged in the following order (from the left bank to the right bank of the Dnepr River): earthen dam across the river valley, navigable lock, GES building, reinforced-concrete spillway dam, and earthen dam across the channel of the river.(1)

### Concreting

The placing of concrete of the hydroelectric center began in the spring of 1953 and by September of that year about 100,000 cubic meters had been placed (2), including about 50,000 cubic meters in the navigable lock.(1) In October 1953 a minimum of 50,000 cubic meters of concrete was scheduled to be placed in the main structures (3), but as of 20 November 1953 only 120,000 cubic meters in all had been placed since concreting began.(4) In December 1953 one and a half times more concrete was placed than in November (5), bringing the total by the end of the year to about 180,000 cubic meters.(6) Placement of 450,000 cubic meters of concrete in 1953 had been planned.(23)

In 1954 four times more concrete is to be placed than in 1953.(7) In order to place 700,000 cubic meters of concrete in the main structures of the hydroelectric center in 1954, an average of 4,000 cubic meters per day must be placed. At the end of February 1954 only 195,000 cubic meters in all had been placed at the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Center since the spring of 1953.(8) An all-time high for productivity was reached in April 1954, when about 60,000 cubic meters of concrete were placed and the third section of the concrete plant and the trestle for delivering concrete from the plant to the construction site were put in operation.(9) The trestle for delivering concrete was to be more than 20 meters high, over one kilometer long, and was to have 2 wide-gauge tracks.(10)

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CONFIDENTIALEarthwork

Seven million cubic meters of earthwork are scheduled to be completed at the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Center in 1954.(11) In 3 years of construction about 15 million cubic meters of earthwork have been completed and 10 million more still remain.(12)

Plans call for 7 million cubic meters of earth to be deposited by hydraulic machinery in the earthen dam (1), the two sections of which together will be 2.5 kilometers long.(10) In September 1953 a suction dredge was piping mud pulp from the Dnepr a distance of 2 kilometers to the right bank of the river where it formed a pile 26 meters high and was expected "shortly" to reach a height of 44 meters. In the summer of 1954 the 2.5 million cubic meters of earth which will then be piled on the right bank are to be placed in the Dnepr at the site of the future earthen dam.(13)

The earthen dam across the channel of the river is to be over one kilometer long and is to measure 30 meters from the base (which will be 500 meters wide) to the crest (which will be 20 meters wide). Over 4 million cubic meters of river alluvium are to be placed in this dam, including the 2.5 million deposited on the high right bank of the Dnepr. This deposit will be forced into place by hydraulic monitors while the remaining earth will be placed in the dam by suction dredges.(14) To put the first two hydroturbines in operation in 1955 the channel of the Dnepr must be dammed before the 1955 spring floodwaters arrive.(8)

Preparation of Reservoir

A deadline of 1 October 1954 has been set for clearing completely the area which will be the bottom of the future Kakhovka Reservoir. The woodcutters pledged to complete their work by 1 April 1954.(15) Early in October 1953 construction began on a large dike to protect the city of Nikopol' from the waters of the Dnepr. The dike, 3.8 kilometers long and 10 meters wide at the crest, must be completed in 1954.(16)

Industrial Support

In September 1953 there were about 20 large auxiliary industrial enterprises, which were built in support of the construction project, located in the area between Zaporozh'ye and Yevpatoriya. Nearly 100 railroad cars and ten barges were arriving daily with construction materials.(13) Approximately 400 of the country's enterprises were supplying materials and equipment to the construction project.(17) In March 1954 the Novo-Kramatorskiy Plant imeni Stalin finished the first turbine shaft for the Kakhovskaya GES; the shaft is over 8.5 meters long and, at the widest part, has a diameter of 2 meters.(18) Over 200 kilometers of railroad tracks, 120 kilometers of motor roads, and 258 kilometers of high-voltage electric power transmission lines have been built in connection with the construction project.(19)

Labor

By the third anniversary of the decree on construction of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Center, a training combine had trained more than 4,600 skilled workers. An evening school of the Odessa Hydraulic Engineering Institute was located at the construction site. More than 400 workers were combining work with study at evening school.(1) In November 1953 many workers, in response to the decree of the September Plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU, "Measures for Further Development of Agriculture," were asking to be sent to work at MFS and on kolхозes. Some of the agricultural specialists who came to Kakhovka from other parts of the USSR had already departed for the Moldavian SSR, the RSFSR, and the Ukrainian SSR. A group of about 25 specialists was preparing to leave for the Belorussian SSR.(20)

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By January 1954 over 70,000 square meters of living space had been put into use in the builders' city of Novaya Kakhovka (21), located on the left bank of the Dnepr near the future hydroelectric power center. In September 1953 the city contained more than 500 residential buildings, an outdoor theater, a polyclinic, three schools, a kindergarten and nursery, a bakery, dining halls, and stores. In 1953 a stadium and water station (1), a Palace of Culture (22) with an auditorium seating 530 persons (10), a 10-year school, and the main building of a hospital were added. (22) Electric current from DneproGES is supplied to Novaya Kakhovka via the Krivoy Rog-Kakhovka high-voltage line. (8)

## SOURCES

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4. Trud, 20 Nov 53
5. Moscow, Pravda, 4 Jan 54
6. Trud, 22 Dec 53
7. Izvestiya, 20 Jan 54
8. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 24 Feb 54
9. Pravda, 30 Apr 54
10. Moscow, Vechernyaya Moskva, 21 Sep 53
11. Pravda, 30 Mar 54
12. Moscow, Promyshlennost' Stroitel'nykh Materialov, 9 Sep 53
13. Izvestiya, 22 Sep 53
14. Tbilisi, Zarya Vostoka, 12 May 53
15. Trud, 11 Oct 53
16. Pravda, 9 Oct 53
17. Pravda, 21 Sep 53
18. Moscow, Gudok, 23 Mar 54
19. Kishinev, Sovetskaya Moldaviya, 13 Jan 54
20. Minsk, Sovetskaya Belorussiya, 18 Nov 53
21. Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 27 Jan 54
22. Gudok, 30 Dec 53
23. Trud, 8 Jul 53

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